

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

HENRY WATKINS,	:	CIVIL ACTION
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
vs.	:	HONORABLE JOHN P. FULLAM, SR.
	:	
PENNSYLVANIA BOARD OF	:	
PROBATION AND PAROLE,	:	
EDWARD JONES AND	:	
MICHAEL BUKATA	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	NO. 02-CV-2881

O R D E R

AND NOW, this _____ day of _____, 2008, upon consideration of

Plaintiff's motion and joint agreement among counsel thereto, it is hereby **ORDERED** that Plaintiff's motion is **GRANTED** with respect to a continuance of the trial in this matter until July _____, 2008.

BY THE COURT:

JOHN P. FULLAM, SR., USDCJ

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

HENRY WATKINS,	:	CIVIL ACTION
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
vs.	:	HONORABLE JOHN P. FULLAM, SR.
	:	
PENNSYLVANIA BOARD OF	:	
PROBATION AND PAROLE,	:	
EDWARD JONES AND	:	
MICHAEL BUKATA	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	NO. 02-CV-2881

**PLAINTIFF'S UNOPPOSED MOTION
FOR CONTINUANCE OF THE TRIAL DATE**

With the concurrence of counsel for defendants, plaintiff requests a brief continuance of the trial of this matter currently scheduled for May 12, 2008 for the following reasons:

1. Defendant Bukarta now resides in Florida, but will be in Pennsylvania during July and will be available for live testimony at trial; and
2. The parties have completed discovery and counsel are attempting to come to agreements on pretrial matters, including factual stipulations, the likely severance of defendants' counterclaim, and the possible resultant "bifurcation" of trial [defendants' motion in this regard is currently pending].

For the reasons set forth in the motion and plaintiff's letter to the Court of April 3, 2008, attached as Exhibit A, plaintiff respectfully requests that his motion be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Js / Gerald J. Williams

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Counsel for Plaintiff Henry Watkins

Dated: April 4, 2008

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, GERALD J. WILLIAMS, hereby certify that on this date I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Plaintiff's Unopposed Motion for Continuance of the Trial Date and proposed order via U.S. District Court's Electronic Filing System and by U.S. first class mail, postage prepaid upon the following counsel of record:

Gino J. Benedetti, Esquire
Dilworth Paxson LLP
1735 Market Street
3200 Mellon Bank Center
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Counsel for Pennsylvania Board
Of Probation and Parole

I, Gerald J. Williams
GERALD J. WILLIAMS

Date: April 4, 2008

EXHIBIT A



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Beth G. Cole[†]
Alan H. Sklarsky[†]
Andrew F. Erba^{††§¶}
Samuel Abloeser[†]
Wendy E. Carr^{**}
Kevin Haverty^{**}
Sherri L. Eyer[†]
Michael J. Quirk^{†§}
Christine A. Campbell[†]

April 3, 2008

[†] Member, Pennsylvania Bar
[‡] Member, New Jersey Bar
[§] Member, Conn. Bar
[¶] Member, Wash., D.C. Bar

The Honorable John P. Fullam
U.S. District Court Judge
for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
U.S. Courthouse
601 Market Street, Room 15614
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Re: ***Henry Watkins v. Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, et al.***
United States District Court for the Eastern District of PA
Civil Action No. 02-CV-2881

Your Honor:

With the concurrence of defense counsel, I write to request a brief continuance of the trial of this matter, currently scheduled for May 12, 2008.

As you know, a number of events have caused some previous delays, which you have kindly accommodated counsel and the parties. These factors have included the serious illness of plaintiff's original counsel, and the serious injuries sustained by Mr. Benedetti. Mr. Yeager and I entered our appearances relatively recently February 19, 2008.

Defense counsel and I are nevertheless hopeful that you will grant an additional continuance. If it meets with the Court's schedule, we would propose a trial date in July, beginning any time after July 6, 2008. The reasons and justifications for our request include the following:

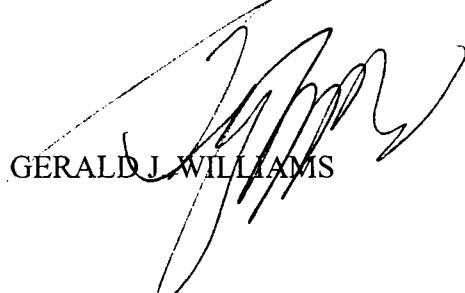
- Defendant Bukarta now resides in Florida, but will be in Pennsylvania during July, and thus available for live testimony;
- The parties have completed discovery, and counsel are attempting to come to agreements on pretrial matters, including factual stipulations, the likely severance of defendants' counterclaim, and the possible resultant "bifurcation of trial [defendants' motion in this regard is currently pending].

The Honorable John P. Fullam
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In all other respects, the matter is trial-ready, and neither side anticipates the need for any further delay. There is currently pending defendants' motion *in limine* with respect to certain evidence, but that has been fully briefed and ready for the Court's disposition.

Of course, counsel are available to discuss any of these issues with the Court at your convenience. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



GERALD J. WILLIAMS

GJW:rap

cc: Gino J. Benedetti, Esquire
Jordan B. Yeager, Esquire